

VOL. I.

APRIL, 1897.

No. 1.

The
Detroit Philatelist

WITH WHICH IS CONSOLIDATED

The Michigan Philatelist,
of Hart, Mich.

A MONTHLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE
STAMP COLLECTOR.

....THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE....

Michigan Philatelic Society.

--- PUBLISHED BY ---

William H. Kessler, Jr.,

Station A., DETROIT MICH.

United * States * Revenues

— FOR SALE BY —

T. L. GREEN,

County Clerk, MT. OLIVET, KY.

Dealer in United States and Foreign Postage, U. S. Revenues, Match and Medicine Stamps.

The prices in this list are for **PINE SPECIMENS**. Terms:—Net. The rarities such as the 6c Proprietary, \$200, imperf. and scarce 2nd and 3rd issues I have had in stock and sold the past season. If you are in need of any of these, I would be pleased to know it, and when choice specimens come my way I will let you hear from me.

References:—Mt. Olivet Deposit Bank or any official in Robertson Co.

	Imperf.	Pt. prf.	Perf.		Imperf.	Pt. prf.	Perf.
1c Express.....	40	35	4	3c Inland Exchange.....	20	50	4
1c Playing Cards.....			2 00	4c Inland Exchange.....	6 00	25	3
1c Proprietary.....			4	5c Conveyance.....	75	15	1
1c Telegraph.....			7	5c Con'vce Ultramarine.....			8
2c Blank Check, blue.....	02	30	1	5c Entry of Goods.....		25	1
2c Bank Check, orange.....			1	5c Foreign Exchange.....	75	50	30
2c Certificate, blue.....	30		55	5c Lease.....	75		40
2c Certificate, orange.....			50	5c Life Insurance.....	1 50		5
2c Express, blue.....	25	50	3	5c Mortgage.....	75	40	3
2c Express, orange.....			7	5c Original Process.....	25		1
2c Playing Cards, blue.....			20	5c Passage Ticket.....	1 50		15
2c Playing Cards, orange.....			1 00	5c Probate of Will.....	2 50		1 25
2c Proprietary, blue.....		1 00	3	5c Surety Bond.....	7 00		5
2c Proprietary, orange.....			2 00	6c Inland Exchange.....	75	1 00	7
2c U. S. I. Rev., orange.....			1	7c Foreign Exchange.....		1 00	6
3c Foreign Exchange.....			4	8 00 Conveyance.....	20		15
3c Playing Cards.....			7 00	1 00 Entry of Goods.....	75		3
3c Proprietary.....			5	1 00 Foreign Exchange.....	40		3
3c Telegraph.....	60	15	12	1 00 Inland Exchange.....	1		1
4c Inland Exchange.....			4	1 00 Lease.....	1 00		7
4c Playing Cards.....			8 00	1 00 Life Insurance.....	2 50		15
4c Proprietary.....		75	7	1 00 Manifest.....	1 30		75
5c Agreement.....			2	1 00 Mortgage.....	60		3 00
5c Certificate.....	15	20	1	1 00 Passage Ticket.....			6 50
5c Express.....	30	15	5	1 00 Power of Attorney.....	40		5
5c Foreign Exchange.....			2	1 00 Probate of Will.....	1 15		60
5c Inland Exchange.....	10	10	1	1 30 Foreign Exchange.....			1 00
5c Playing Cards.....			50	1 50 Inland Exchange.....	15		5
5c Proprietary.....			90	1 60 Foreign Exchange.....			1 25
6c Inland Exchange.....			15	1 90 Foreign Exchange.....			1 25
6c Proprietary.....	60			2 00 Conveyance.....	1 25		10
10c Bill of Lading.....	80		5	2 00 Mortgage.....	1 25		10
10c Certificate.....			1	2 00 Probate of Will.....			90
10c Contract.....			1	2 50 Inland Exchange.....			7
10c Contract, Ultramarine.....			8	3 00 Charter Party.....	1 25		15
10c Inland.....	2 25	10	25	3 00 Manifest.....	1 25		20
10c Inland.....		40	1	3 50 Inland Exchange.....			1 50
10c Power of Attorney.....			1	5 00 Charter Party.....	1 25		15
10c Proprietary.....		1 25		5 00 Conveyance.....	1 00		15
15c Foreign Exchange.....			50	5 00 Manifest.....	1 50		1 50
15c Inland Exchange.....	50	15	2	5 00 Mortgage.....	1 50		50
20c Foreign Exchange.....	40	60		5 00 Probate of Will.....			50
20c Inland Exchange.....	15	15	1	10 00 Charter Party.....			60
25c Bond.....		75	10	10 00 Conveyance.....	2 25		2 00
25c Certificate.....	20	10	1	10 00 Mortgage.....	2 25		1 25
25c Entry of Goods.....	15	75	4	10 00 Probate of Will.....	5 00		1 00
25c Insurance.....	10	10	1	15 00 Mortgage.....			8 00
25c Life Insurance.....	75		15	20 00 Conveyance.....	1 50		2 00
25c Power of Attorney.....	20		1	20 00 Probate of Will.....			30 00
25c Protest.....			15	25 00 Mortgage.....			4 00
25c Warehouse Receipt.....		75	50	50 00 U. S. I. Rev.....			3 50
30c Foreign Exchange.....			1 50	200 00 U. S. I. Rev.....			18 00
30c Foreign Ex'ge mauve.....			2 00				

Watch this page next month. Will send selections of the above on approval, on receipt of deposit, or commercial or bank reference.

T. L. GREEN, Co. Clerk.

THE DETROIT PHILATELIST.

VOL. I.

APRIL, 1897.

No. 1.

A CHAT ON CENTERING.

C. E. Severn.

It seems as though particular United States stamps of the earlier issues are more difficult to get well centered than others. It may be contended that there is no tenable ground on which to base this statement. There is no apparent reason why the proportion of stamps well centered should vary, especially when different denominations of the same set are considered.

Yet testimony can be brought to bear showing that in some instances the percentage of well-centered specimens is greater in one denomination than in another of the same set. Examples illustrating this inconsistency of perforation can readily be cited.

In the 1851 issue of the United States there are no perforations to trouble the collecting heart: "margins" are what the collector must give eye to, instead. In the 1855-60 issue the perforating of all values is comparatively even. In any large quantity of the three cent of this issue there will probably be a greater number of evenly centered specimens than in a lot of like size of any other issue.

A really well-centered set of the 1861 issue is the exception, rather than the rule. Some values of this issue betray an erraticalness of perforation that is more pronounced than in other values of the set. The higher values of the set in a perfectly centered state are elusive enough. Out of, say six stamps of this issue of each value, selected at random, it is likely that the lower denominations will show to better advantage than the higher, especially the thirty and ninety-cent stamps. Experience has shown many collectors that these two values in finely centered condition are unaccountably hard to find.

The two-cent Jackson and fifteen-cent Lincoln exhibit a contrast in perforating. The two-cent black is about as difficult to get fairly centered as the fifteen, notwithstanding the disparity between the number of each of the two stamps issued. Stamp men who have handled large quantities of the two-cent Jackson unite in saying that the comparative scarcity of good specimens is strikingly noticeable.

The grilled 1868 issue exhibits about the same characteristics as regards centering as the ungrilled set. One must needs have ordinarily a number of each of the twenty-four, thirty and ninety-cent stamps before he can secure specimens with equal margins on four sides.

The 1869 set seems to be perforated, as a whole, up to the average. Many specimens while not well centered just miss being so. The one-cent appears to be more uncommon well centered than it should be. The centering of the bi-colored values, with the exception of the ninety, compares favorably with that of stamps of single color. The stamps of two printings, while they may be centered well according to the outside color, often times have the middle picture or printing out of plumb. It is fair to say that the highly popular ninety-cent, 1869, does not quite hold its own on the question of centering. Though the ninety is to be seen in the best localities, it is exceptional to discover a truly centered one.

The issues from 1870 to 1894 are about normal as to perforation, although the 1870-71 "National" affords a great number of freaks of perforating.

The first output of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in 1894, the unwatermarked issue, was unsatisfactory in the way of centering. The collectors who early tried to get the complete set, one-cent to five dollars, found that they had to look over many sheets in the postoffice before they obtained suitably centered specimens. The number of unwatermarked dollar values nicely centered bears a rather small percentage to the whole number issued. The watermarked product of the bureau is indifferently centered, though evidences of improvement in centering are seen latterly.

OUR ASSOCIATE EDITOR'S SAY.

We had retired to the country and thought ourselves secure from molestation, when Uncle Sam, who now penetrates the remotest corner of our land, dropped us a letter, requesting us to appear for duty as associate editor of Michigan's new paper, *The Detroit Philatelist*. Well, here we are, for good or for worse; but in time we hope to appear to better advantage.

Among the many things that have discouraged the younger collector and have driven older collectors to specializing might be mentioned minor varieties and speculative issues. Therefore all philatelists interested in the welfare of their hobby should hail with joy the new catalogues. The fifty-seventh, which indorses the S. S. S. by refusing to list speculative issues, and the *International*, which omits minor varieties. Especially praiseworthy is the *International Catalogue* and its sister publication, the new *International Album*. These two publications, owing to their reasonable price, will find their way into the hands of many who have never used a catalogue; or, in some cases, an album before.

Every once in a while we find something in the way of the following going the rounds of the newspapers:

Victor Robert, of Paris, has paid \$30,000 for the collection of postage stamps—all new—of Count Primoli, Princess Mathilde's nephew. The stamps were valued one by one: Moldavia's, \$1,600; Reunions, \$1,000; Tuscany, 3 lire, \$600, and so on. M. Robert is a famous "timbrophile."

We wonder how many of these reports are true.

We wonder if it has ever occurred to some of our different publishers that they are dishonest—in a way—without, perhaps, knowing it. A short time ago we received a sample copy of a philatelic paper asking us to subscribe. We sent them our quarter for a year's subscription, and the first number we received we noticed in its columns a "special offer," whereby the reader could send fifteen cents and receive the same paper that the month before we paid a quarter for. In this case we subscribed too early, but the reader will please not hesitate in sending his subscription to this paper early, for in this instance you will lose instead of gain by waiting until later in the season to subscribe.

WILL M. RANDALL.

In September last Mr. Chas. Monnier, of Detroit, wrote 17,858 words on a postal card. In an idle moment Mr. Monnier conceived the idea of equaling the "world's record" for the number of words ever written on a postal card, and taking an ordinary United States postal card he bent to the work. When the card was half filled he had equalled the record, and he then determined to set a mark for all future chirographists. He claims that his card of 17,858 words contains 11,000 more words than were ever before placed on a sheet of paper of the same size. The matter chosen for reproduction was the novel "Portia" by the Duchess, and the writer copied forty-eight pages of the book. A steel pen was used, and when at work Mr. Monnier held the holder between the thumb and index finger, pressing the holder against his nose and moving his head to form the characters, the little finger being placed on the card to brace the hand and a magnifying glass being held over the card in the left hand.

THE CHRONICLE OF THE FUTURE.

By Gordon C. Corbaley.

There was a time when every philatelic journal venture, however unassuming, from Maine to California, contained a chronicle, so-called, of new issues. These lists of changes in the world's postal issues were generally poor matter in the extreme, and to slaughter space was about all they accomplished; but it is true that a few magazines conducted chronicles worthy of the name. In fact, if the Philatelic Journal of America and its distinguished foreign comperes had not existed, the minor paper new issue departments would have been forced to suspend, as their information was almost entirely abbreviated from the few that were really worthy of perusal.

This time is not long gone by. Indeed, there are a few among us who do not remember the day when a part of two-thirds of the minor journals was thus filled. This section of these sometimes bright ventures was regularly skipped by the majority of the readers as unprofitable matter. This has left an influence behind that is far from desirable, so most of to-day's collectors have a holy horror of anything bearing the name of new issue chronicle, instinctively connecting that title with the crude, uninteresting style of ten years past.

The decided trend of the public mind against chronicle publishing has caused this department to disappear from all except a few of our journals. But the decrease in number is not to be mourned, as most of those that are no more were the worst of their kind; and of those remaining we can frankly say that, omitting one or two, they are fully worth the time necessary to read them. Time so spent is not lost, and indeed will prove to have been profitably invested.

The time of the dry reference list chronicle is, we hope, forever past. The philatelist of the present manifests no hatred of information, be it of new issues or not, provided the facts are presented in palatable form. The cry that went up a few years ago against dry articles giving facts about stamps was

a foolish one, but was, to a certain extent, warranted by the existing conditions. We do not want less knowledge concerning stamps, but more, only let it be offered in a pleasing form. There are a few in the philatelic crowd worthy of exaltation for their wisdom, but many there are anxious to learn if the lessons but be stated in a learnable manner. You cannot compel men to read a reference list, but of their own accord they will peruse an article on stamps if it is written to be read. And so it should be with the chronicle. List all new issues and more than list them; give facts connected with them; why such changes are made, etc.; but above all make it interesting. All these written in a style for reading are in demand, and our editors cannot too soon recognize the fact. If there is not room for a good chronicle drop it altogether, and let your friend with more space fill the field alone. A poor new issue list is worse than none, as it is but so much space wasted.

By all means let us have the chronicle continued, but make it worthy of the name. Let it be continually improved, and instead of a constantly unread portion of the magazine it will be one of the most valuable. The chronicle has a place to fill, but it must be a chronicle in every sense of the word.

AN INDUCEMENT.

In order to increase our subscription list we will make the following offer: Each person sending 25 cents for a subscription will receive a copy of the Stamp Collectors' Hand Book and Directory of Michigan and twenty-five different postage stamps that catalogue more than fifty cents. A two-cent stamped envelope must accompany your letter if the premium is desired.

The Detroit Philatelic Association has been organized and is in fine working order. All collectors, especially those of our own state, are invited to join. Initiation fee, \$1 00; dues, \$1 00, payable quarterly. Apply to Howard C. Beck, Secretary, City Hall, Detroit.

We wish to say a word to all collectors who reside in Michigan. Briefly: Join the Michigan Philatelic Society.

THE DETROIT PHILATELIST.

A Monthly Journal for The Stamp Collector.

W. H. KESSLER, JR., Editor.
WILL M. RANDALL, Asst.-Ed.

SUBSCRIPTION.

United States, Mexico, and Canada, 25c. a year
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WILLIAM H. KESSLER, Jr.,
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Editorials.

OUR FIRST NUMBER.

This being the first number of the Detroit Philatelist, it would be quite customary to make profuse apologies for our existence and to say that our entrance into the philatelic world was "by request" and to fill a longfelt want; but we have no excuses to offer, and our bid for favor will be based on our efforts to issue a successful stamp paper; one whose characteristics shall be neatness, promptness and originality.

With our next number Miss Amy L. Swift will be associated with this paper as our Assistant Editress. Miss Swift's articles are of the best and we are positive that our readers will appreciate them.

Mr. H. C. Kendall, of Emmettsburg, Iowa, was a recent visitor to Detroit. Mr. Kendall had with him a large supply of blocks and plate numbers, together with other good United States stamps.

OUR CONTENTS.

It is our purpose to offer our readers each month original and instructive articles by the best writers of the day, and with this object in view we have been corresponding with many of our prominent philatelists, with very satisfactory results. The first of these articles appears in this number, and comes from the easy pen of Charles E. Severn.

THE MICHIGAN PHILATELIST.

We have recently purchased the Michigan Philatelist, and so are at present issuing the only stamp paper in the state. The contracts entered into by the above paper will be carried out by this one, and we are quite sure our patrons will lose nothing by the change.

OUR ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

The position of associate editor will be filled by one who is too well known to warrant the writer in praising him. We are pleased to bring Mr. Will M. Randall before the philatelic public once more as one who is connected with this magazine. He was the first vice-president of the P. S. of A. and the publisher of the Philatelic Kaleidoscope. Further we cannot say, in his favor, more than what has already been said by those who have been associated with Mr. Randall.

As associate editor, Mr. Randall will contribute notes that will be of interest to collectors in general. These notes will be the only ones that will be published, as the rest of our space will be devoted to articles of interest to the philatelist, of which the majority will be those dealing directly with stamps.

A WORD TO THE COLLECTOR.

This number is sent to you as a specimen of what we will do in the future. We will strive to give to our readers articles that will instruct them, articles that will help them in the study of their stamps, and articles that will forward general information regarding stamp-collecting. Our intention is to give our readers from eight to thirty-two pages of good material each month, and to leave out all personal notes other than the editorials and to omit all political matter which becomes so monotonous to the uninterested collector.

A WORD TO THE ADVERTISER.

This number is sent to you as a reminder that you are a dealer who wishes to increase his trade. This paper, being the only stamp magazine published in Michigan, would do much to increase your orders in this section. There are from 500 to 1,000 known collectors in the state of Michigan, and this paper will reach them all. Will it not pay? Try and see.

THE MICHIGAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

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 Care—Station A, Detroit.
 Official Organ—The Detroit Philatelist.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Brothers—It is with pleasure I announce to the members of our society that we will have at last an organ we can depend upon and get every month. The Board of Trustees with the president and secretary have made arrangements with The Detroit Philatelist to act as official organ. Now let every member come to the front and do their duty by getting new members and also paying their dues promptly. Every member paying his dues for '97 will receive a new membership card. Don't delay, but send in at once and make the year 1897 a hummer. Yours, etc.,

J. T. PERCIVAL.
 President.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.
RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED.

L. E. Patterson, Guelph, Ont., Can.

NEW MEMBERS.

R. B. Bliss, Luman.
 Herbert Armstrong, Iron Mountain.

APPLICATIONS.

Chas. D. Gibbons, Asst. Public Librarian, Detroit. References: W. H. Kessler, Jr., and A. H. Kessler.

The above applicant will be admitted April 22, providing no objections are filed with the secretary prior to that date.

All members have been requested to send in their '97 dues at once and also try to secure new members. With a new official organ and one which we can depend on there is no reason why the society cannot be made a successful one.

The following have paid their dues for 1897. Is your name on the list? If not you know what to do:

R. B. Bliss, Luman.
 B. J. Bishop, Wyandotte.
 Camille Cools, Detroit.
 W. G. McDonald, Port Huron.
 J. T. Percival, Port Huron.
 H. C. Beck, Detroit.
 Clarke Thomas, Port Huron.
 Chester Bayless, Herbert Armstrong, Iron Mountain.
 W. H. Kessler, Jr.
 I. M. Bates, Detroit.

Please send in dues and new membership card will be sent you.

Fraternally,

W. G. McDONALD.
 Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Nov. 30, 1896. Cash on hand \$ 13

Feb. 26, 1897. Cash rec'd from

Sec'y 2 03

—\$2 16

Feb. 25, 1897. Sec'y's expenses

to date, March 11, 97.... \$1 00

—\$1 00

Balance on hand \$1 16

Fraternally,

F. L. VAN DER MARK.
 Treasurer.

ADVERTISE.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

To the Members of the M. P. S.:

Again, I would say that each member has the use of any periodical in our library providing they pay postage both ways and return papers within ten days. Hoping the members will do all in their power to increase and enlarge the library, I am, Yours Fraternally,

CHAS. GARLAND.
 Librarian.

Join the Michigan Philatelic Society!
 It will pay you!

If we are worth it—SUBSCRIBE.

"GOODING'S GOOD THINGS."

			cat. p.	my p.
1894	\$1.00 unused fine new o. g.		\$3.00	\$1.75
"	2.00 " " " o. g.		5.00	3.15
"	5.00 " " " o. g.		8.00	5.95
1897	15c orange " " o. g.		.50	.35
1897	2c new o. g.		.30	.07

In blocks at same rates.

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WILL M. RANDALL,

BELLEVILLE, MICH.

P. S. A. 8.

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Advertise!**DESIRABLE SPECIMENS.**

Japan Memorial, '96, 4 var.....	.15
Greece Olympian Games, '96, 4 var.....	.12
3c Playing Card.....Cat.	\$ 8 00; 6 00
4c Playing Card.....Cat.	10 00; 8 00
Con. States, '61, 2c green.....Cat.	2 50; 2 00
Interior, 90c.....Cat.	2 50; 1 70
Postoffice, 90c.....Cat.	2 00; 1 45
Treasury, 7c.....Cat.	1 50; 1 25
Treasury, 90c.....Cat.	1 00; 60
2c Certificate, blue, imp.....Cat.	50; 20
2c Playing Card, blue perf.....Cat.	40; 20
3c Playing Card, blue perf, Cat	90; 45

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ALEX P. WYLIE,
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Wm. v. d. Wettern, Jr.,

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50c. PROBATE OF WILL,	-	.90
\$1.00 MANIFEST,	-	.50
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25 DIFFERENT REVENUES,	-	.25

All post-paid. Business Established 1880.

Detroit Stamp Co.,

42 Howard St., - DETROIT, MICH.

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THE QUEEN CITY STAMP COMPANY,
P. O. Box 232, Cincinnati, Ohio.

What Will You Have?

35 var., good U. S. 17c, 12 var. revenue 12c or you may have U. S. on approval at 25 per cent. or foreign 50 per cent.

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U. S. REVENUES.

50c Life Ins. unperf.,	cat. \$3.00	\$.50
50c " " part perf.,	" 5.00	1.00
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All are in perfect condition.

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AUCTION • BUSINESS

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Former publisher "Michigan Philatelist."

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U. S. REVENUES.

10c Bill of lading imp.....	\$ 60
25c Power of Atty., imp.....	20
50c Life Ins., imp.....	2 20
50c Surety Bond, imp.....	3 00
70c For. Exch., imp.....	3 25
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2c Playing Cards, blue perf.....	25
3c Playing Cards, perf.....	6 25
5c Playing Cards, perf.....	50
5s Prop., red, perf.....	95
10c Prop., blue, perf.....	95
10c Prop., black and green perf.....	2 25
\$3 00 Manifest, perf.....	22
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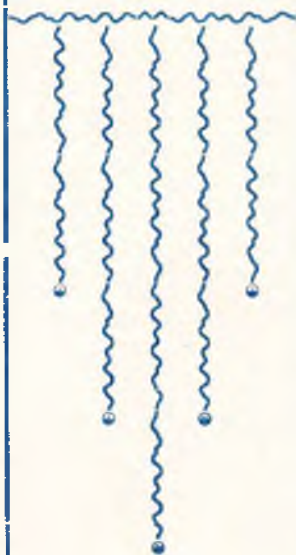
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